substitute --may be necessary--;

line 22, after "schedule", insert --,--;

delete "the" (third occurrence) and substitute --a--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Amended) A method for scheduling a complex activity that [uses consumable resources and] is governed by a set of pre-defined constraints including consumable resource constraints, wherein an unacceptable schedule exists for the activity, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing the unacceptable schedule as a current schedule;

calculating a score for the current schedule;

repairing one or more [of the] constraint violations of the current schedule by modifying the current schedule;

determining a revised schedule from the schedule modification or modifications made by the constraint violation repair or repairs;

calculating a score for the revised schedule;

selecting one of the revised schedule or the current schedule as [the] a new current schedule based upon a comparison of the score of the revised schedule and the score of the current schedule;

repeating, until a predetermined condition is met, the steps of repairing one or more [of the] constraint

violations of the current schedule, determining a revised

schedule, calculating a score for the revised schedule,

and selecting one of the revised schedule or the current

schedule as the new current schedule; and

selecting one of the revised schedules as the final

schedule.

6.   (Amended) A method as in Claim 1, wherein the score

is a function of the relative importance of each constraint and

the degree of violation, if any, of each constraint.

12.   (Amended) A system for scheduling a complex activity

that [uses consumable resources and] is governed by a set of

pre-defined constraints including consumable resource

constraints, wherein an unacceptable schedule exists for the

activity, comprising:

a memory device, wherein:

the memory device is capable of storing an

unacceptable initial schedule that is supplied to the

system;

the memory device stores information regarding

each of the constraints; and

the memory device is capable of storing one or

more revised schedules produced by the system; and

a processing device, wherein:

the processing device is capable of calculating

a score for each schedule;

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the processing device is capable of repairing one or more constraint violations for each schedule by modifying the schedule;

the processing device is capable of determining each revised schedule from the schedule modification or modifications made by the constraint violation repair or repairs;

the processing device is capable of selecting one of the revised schedule or the current schedule as [the] a new current schedule based upon a comparison of the score of the revised schedule and the score of the current schedule; and

the processing device is capable of selecting one of the [revised] schedules as the final schedule determined by the system.

Please enter the following new claims:

19. A method as in Claim 1, wherein the set of pre-defined constraints further includes reusable resource constraints.

20. A computer readable medium encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling scheduling of a complex activity that is governed by a set of pre-defined constraints including consumable resource constraints, comprising:

instructions for establishing an unacceptable initial schedule as a current schedule;

instructions for calculating a score for the current schedule;

instructions for repairing one or more constraint violations of the current schedule by modifying the current schedule;

instructions for determining a revised schedule from the schedule modification or modifications made by the constraint violation repair or repairs;

instructions for calculating a score for the revised schedule;

instructions for selecting one of the revised schedule or the current schedule as a new current schedule based upon a comparison of the score of the revised schedule and the score of the current schedule;

instructions for causing repetition of, until a predetermined condition is met, the instructions for repairing one or more constraint violations of the current schedule, the instructions for determining a revised schedule, the instructions for calculating a score for the revised schedule, and the instructions for selecting one of the revised schedule or the current schedule as the new current schedule; and

instructions for selecting one of the revised schedules as the final schedule.

IN THE ABSTRACT

At line 28, delete "previously used" and substitute